The work of Feasibility Study and preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for Stretch at (i) above has been take up. Bids for carrying out feasibility Study and Preparation of DPR for the balance stretches have been invited. These works of four laning would be taken up on BOT basis after finalisation of DPR and it is too early to indicate the amount and the time frame.

Expert advice on road problems

1825. SHRI V. HANUMANTHARAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a policy to extend expert advice whenever sought by any State Government to solve some problems • related to roads;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Director General, Roads is the nodal body to give advice on engineering problems related to roads;

(c) whether any request has-been received from the Andhra Pradesh Government in the last three months seeking advice on some road improvement work;

(d) if so, the details of such advice; and

(e) the response of Government to the request for expert advice on matters related to critical roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways in nodal Ministry for giving expert advice on road matters, case to case basis.

(b) Director General (Road Development) is the head of the Roads Wing in the Ministry and acts as Chief Adviser to the Government of India in all matters concerning road development.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.